

ozone standards that require DFW to reduce its emissions by 70 percent. Throughout this period, and long before, DFW officials have campaigned aggressively to reduce operating expenses for all its tenants through reduced energy use while adhering to new EPA guidelines.

From building commissioning and energy retrofits, to more efficient building design and adherence to strict energy codes, DFW has reduced its energy use at the central plant by over one fourth, and is energy use per square foot by almost 40 percent. This has resulted in a total avoided energy use of 25 million MMBtus. In addition, nitrous oxide emissions are expected to be reduced by 86 percent, far exceeding the EPA mandate.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to congratulate Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport, my home airport, for setting an unprecedented example as a world leader in energy and environmental stewardship within the airline transportation industry.

#### TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

### HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 19, 2005*

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, today I want to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their National Day.

Taiwan serves as a prosperous and democratic model to countries around the world and I would like to personally congratulate Taiwan for its dedication to democracy and the rule of law. Its 23 million people enjoy the privileges of a balanced judicial system, free speech, and fair elections. Its vibrant free market system continues to thrive and supports a strong and healthy economy. Taiwan is a strong regional ally and a close friend of the United States and is committed to maintaining peace and stability.

To help us celebrate the momentous accomplishments of our friends in Taiwan, I urge my colleagues here in Congress to support Taiwan's bid to return to the United Nations. It is truly shameful that Taiwan has been denied its proper international role and presence. There is no better way to show our respect for Taiwan's democratic ideals than to support its bid to return to the international community. It is an objective fact that Taiwan is a free and independent nation, and therefore meets all the criteria for admission to the United Nations.

I am confident Taiwan will continue to serve as a model to its neighbors and I praise its commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and regional stability. Congratulations Taiwan on your National Day.

#### CONGRATULATING PAUL AND SHARON BOCZEK FOR WINNING THE 2005 PEACEKEEPER'S AWARD

### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 19, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Paul and Sharon Boczek have selflessly given to support Peg's House, the Tri-County Help Center's emergency domestic violence shelter; and

Whereas, Paul and Sharon Boczek and their staff have conducted themselves with professionalism in maintaining the confidentiality of the shelter and managing the upkeep of Peg's House; and

Whereas, Paul and Sharon Boczek pursue this noble labor without expectation of thanks or reward, but out of the pure kindness of their hearts.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Paul and Sharon Boczek for winning this prestigious award.

#### PETROLEUM REFINERIES: WILL RECORD PROFITS SPUR INVESTMENT IN NEW DOMESTIC CAPACITY?

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 19, 2005*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit the following statement for the RECORD.

"Will Record Profits spur investment in new domestic capacity?" That is the title of this hearing. In a competitive market, the question would not be worth asking in Congress. There would be no doubt about the answer.

But the petroleum refining industry is not a competitive market. Ten companies control 80 percent of the refining capacity, and just 5 companies control half of the Nation's capacity all by themselves.

Since 1981, the concentration of refining capacity supply in fewer and fewer hands has increased. Mergers and acquisitions have fueled industry concentration. The result is astonishing:

Operable capacity stopped rising in 1981, as it had for the previous 30 years.

Instead, it went into decline, before it plateauing. For the past 20 years, capacity has been held relatively constant.

Economics 101 teaches that rising demand meets constant supply at higher and higher prices. We can be confident that the industry is familiar with that economics lesson, and they have profited handsomely as a result.

The question we should address is why should the U.S. Government continue to permit an anti-competitive environment that enables a few companies to rein in supply and drive up record profits?

I am sure that we will hear from the industry a lot about onerous environmental regulations. They want the public to believe that they would have built more refineries if only they'd been allowed to do it.

Not only is that not true, but it is a smokescreen. The industry hasn't tried but once in 25 years to build a new refinery. Yet, between 1994 and 2004, they closed 30 refineries. On balance, they have been closing refineries, not trying to open new ones. Closing refineries tightens supply, driving up prices when demand is rising. That is exactly what has happened, and they've made record profits.

If there were no environmental regulations, the industry would have to invent them or something equivalent in order to disguise a corporate strategy to hold down supply. That is the real issue and Americans

are paying mightily for it. Since 2001, according to Public Citizen, the largest 5 oil companies operating in the United States enjoyed after-tax profits of \$254 billion.

There are things Congress can do. One would be to pass H.R. 2070, the Gas Price Spike Act of 2005. This bill, which I introduced with 39 cosponsors, would implement a windfall profit tax on gasoline and diesel. Such a tax would be imposed on key oil industry profits above a reasonable rate of return. If oil companies are collecting excessive profits on the backs of consumers, they should be subject to a stiff tax on those excessive profits. The threat of heavy taxation will send a clear signal to oil companies that price gouging, and shorting supply, will not pay.

In addition, H.R. 2070 will direct the revenue from the windfall profits tax to Americans who buy ultra efficient cars made in America. These individuals would receive a \$6000 tax credit. The credit would be phased in, and cars that achieved 65 miles per gallon would receive a full tax credit. Today average cars get less than 30 miles per gallon. This tax credit will stimulate the market in ultra efficient vehicles.

Lastly, the bill makes funding available to regional transit authorities to offset significantly reduced mass transit fares during times of gas price spikes. Providing low-cost mass transit will slow demand for gas and ease the price of gasoline, benefiting all Americans.

#### CONGRATULATING FORMER CONGRESSMAN JOSEPH HOFFFEL

### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 19, 2005*

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Joseph Hoeffel honorably represented Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional district for 6 years. And, on October 16, I proudly joined with area Democrats in naming Joe the "Montgomery County Democrat of the Year."

As a lifelong resident of Montgomery County, Joe was elected in 1976 to the first of four terms in the Pennsylvania State House, representing the Abington area until 1984, where he worked on budget and government reform, economic development and programs for seniors. In 1991, Joe was elected to the first of two terms as Montgomery County Commissioner where he fought for open space preservation, community revitalization and reforms of patronage and pay-to-play abuses in the courthouse.

In 1996, Joe ran for the U.S. House of Representatives, challenging a freshman incumbent and losing by just 84 votes. However, he returned to the campaign trail in 1998 and was successful—earning the opportunity to represent the 13th district in the 106th, 107th, and 108th Congresses. Joe campaigned on a platform of creating jobs, bettering our public school system, expanding access to health care, balancing the Federal budget, and ensuring that we have a robust foreign policy.

During his tenure, Joe fulfilled many campaign promises. He authored various pieces of legislation to better the 13th district and the Nation, including bills to create a veterans' cemetery at Valley Forge, to eliminate wasteful corporate welfare, to reform Federal support for public schools and to establish a patients' bill of rights.